

LIBRARY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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BROOKE COUNTY LIBRARY OPENS NEW STRUCTURE AT WELLSBURG

The stocking of the new library at Main and Tenth Street turned into a gala occasion for Brooke Countians. TV cameras recorded the human book transport and four librarians supervised the operation. Mrs. Pearl Baker, for many years Wellsburg Librarian, was assisted by Larry Frye, Library Building Consultant of Bethany College, and Bill Myers, Director of Weirton Service Center Library.

Governor Arch Moore was the chief speaker at the dedication of the library building on March 5, 1972. He noted that his administration was the first to include capital construction for public libraries in its budget and he intended to continue to include funding for this important public service in his future plans for the State. Senator Jennings Randolph presented a flag which had been flown over the capital in Washington to James Paul, Chairman of the Board. Mr. Paul also received the keys for the building from the architect, Ray Shaw of Weirton. Six hundred were reported attending the open house on the day of the dedication. Representing the West Virginia Library Commission were Frederic J. Glazer, Director, J. D. King, and R. David Childers.

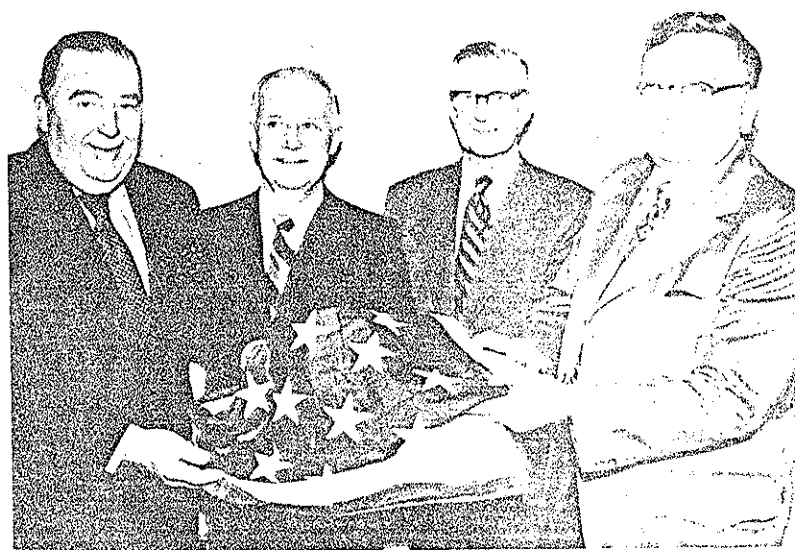




EXTERIOR VIEW
OF THE
NEW BUILDING



INTERIOR VIEW
SHOWING THE
READING ROOM



CHIEF PARTICIPANTS IN THE
CEREMONY ARE SHOWN
AT THE LEFT

U. S. Senator Jennings Randolph
Governor Arch Moore, Jr.
Mr. James Paul
Mr. William Young of the
Brooke County Library Board

The principal contractor for the building was J. D. Koon Construction Company of Wheeling; total cost approximately \$257,500. The brick colonial structure affording 6,446 square feet provides housing for 20,000 volumes. It grew out of a Wellsburg community library established by Miss Ethel Charnock, former Wellsburg High School Librarian, who used a room in the courthouse. The library is supported by the Brooke County Court and the matching funds for the building were made possible from an estate of the late Celeste Paull. The funding was a mix of funds from the Library Services and Construction Act, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the State of West Virginia. To qualify for the funding, the Brooke County Library Board reorganized as a public corporation under the West Virginia Code, Chapter X, in 1968.

W. V. L. A.	A special meeting on Legislative Procedures
EXECUTIVE BOARD	was sponsored by the West Virginia Library
HOSTS	Association at the Heart-o-Town Motor Inn on
A	Saturday, March fourth. Robert Murphy,
SPRING MEETING	President of the Association, presided throughout

the meeting. Frederic Glazer, Director of the Library Commission, reported on Budgetary Hearings with the Finance Committees of the House and Senate. He commented on the advisability of a National Library Users Organization.

Chief speaker at the meeting was Germaine Krettek, Director of the American Library Association's Washington Office. Her discussion dwelt on methods of attracting borrowers. "Libraries need people, and user groups are well worth nurturing." In this connection, she suggested nations of the world were proposing that states "give away" library cards as a promotional stunt for observing International Book Year. To create family interest, a book could be given whenever a child is born in a community. Various women's clubs could sponsor their purchase.

Miss Krettek discussed the value of library leaders working with other areas of government -- seeking the backing of mayors and the endorsement of political candidates. Ask candidates, "What do you stand for in terms of library support?" A plank on libraries should be included in all party platforms. "Remember that elected officials listen to other elected officials."

Legislative proposals, according to Miss Krettek, must be "in print", for he who controls the press controls the nation. Long range state library goals should be published using approaches such as that employed by Georgia last year, "Libraries are asked to do a maxi job with mini funds".

The West Virginia Library Association's Legislation Committee includes the following membership: A. Merle Moore and Nancy Canterbury, Co-Chairmen, Eloise Newlon, Victor Young, Elliott Horton, Campbell Beall, Sam Harshbarger, and Frederic J. Glazer.

REPORT	Considerable success has been achieved in the
FROM THE LEGISLATURE	Legislature. On Monday, March 27, Governor
	Arch A. Moore, Jr., signed into law Senate

Bill No. 121, an act enabling West Virginia libraries to enter into Interstate Compacts. While only permissive legislation, the significance of the passage

is more apparent considering that 1,200 bills were introduced, and only a small fraction or less than 150 were enacted. At least, library legislation was not left on the sidelines.

State funding for public library support was increased significantly by the House, with the Senate then concurring.

NEW LIBRARY BUILDINGS

The inclusion of State money for buildings in next year's legislative appropriation has created a flurry of interest in new buildings. The decline of funding from the Library Services and Construction Act and the indefiniteness of grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission create major shifts in funding patterns. Six communities have shown definite interest in having new buildings: Carnegie Library of Parkersburg and Wood County, Clarksburg Public Library, Raleigh County Library, Putnam County Library, Roane County Library, and the remodeling of an old building now occupied by Marion County Library in Fairmont. Clarksburg hired Hoyt Galvin, Nationally known building consultant and co-author of "The Small Public Library Building" with Martin Van Buren, to inspect their proposed site adjoining the present library.

Structures in Jackson County for Ripley and Ravenswood are in the design stages. Bluefield has hired Cameron Hunter as the architect for their new building. He is associated with Zando, Martin, and Milstead.

NEOPHYTE LIBRARIES

An establishment grant has been made for a new library in Wayne, county seat of Wayne County. The West Virginia Library Commission awarded \$7,500 for the project to the Cabell County Library (\$5,000 to be used for purchase of new books and \$1,500 on equipment). The library will be located in the VFW Building. Ceremonies for general opening are scheduled for Sunday, April ninth.

A branch of the Fayette County Library has opened Saturday, March 11, in the Woman's Club House on Third Avenue in Montgomery. The Woman's Club is planning a story hour for the younger children.

Capon Bridge in Hampshire County now has a library located on Route 50. This small library has been sponsored by local Ruritan Clubs. The town of Paw Paw located in Morgan County near the Maryland border has organized a library. Mrs. Thomas Bohrer is in charge of the library which has recently occupied new quarters in a storeroom on the main street.

NOTEWORTHY GIFTS

Martinsburg reported \$10,000 from Mrs. Nelson C. Tavenner which will be used to establish a permanent trust or endowment for the public library. Keith Burns, Library Director of West Virginia Wesleyan College, was delighted with the receipt of a fiftieth anniversary Montgomery Ward Catalog, vintage 1922.

READERS'
ATTRACTIONS

South Charleston Library displays a rare collection of bookbindings, twenty volumes owned by Jerry Gorby. Keyser-Mineral County has been featuring newer books and aids for the businessman. St. Albans has displays on both floors -- art work by area artists. Treasures from Mexico have enlivened the branch library at Mannington. Holding them spellbound in Beckley is a black limestone rock carved with what appears to be an Egyptian goddess. The carving appears to be an Egyptian Goddess, Hathor, the cow goddess of love, dance, and music. As legend goes, it was found in a dry creek bed under four feet of rock. West Virginia University Egyptologist, William Arnett, brought it to the library for identification.

TRUSTEE
SPECIALS

Operating on the assumption that trustees like to do their own thing, the Library Commission is co-hosting two general meetings which will feature Fred Glazer, the new director. The Fayette County Library Board invites trustees from southern West Virginia to attend a luncheon meeting at the Country Club in Oak Hill on Saturday at 1:00 p.m., May twentieth. Attorney Frank Mahan and librarian Jo Anderson will be in charge of arrangements. On the following Saturday, May 27th, there will be a buffet at the Fairmont Hotel with Marion County Library trustees in charge. Chairman Joseph Hoffman and librarian Ruth Early will greet neighboring trustees.

County trustee representatives particularly invited to Oak Hill include Raleigh, Mercer, McDowell, Wyoming, Lincoln, Greenbrier, Nicholas, Monroe, and Fayette. Advisory Committee members from the Book Express area in Boone, Webster, and Summers County are also invited.

The Fairmont invitation includes trustees from libraries in Monongalia, Preston, Marion, Taylor, Barbour, Randolph, Upshur, Lewis, Harrison, and Braxton Counties.

"Get Your Mind Transplant
Here --
Your Local Public Library"

This was the theme of the Mississippi Library Commission exhibit at Mississippi Health Expo I in October. Approximately 30,000 visitors saw this exhibit during the three day Health Exposition held in Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson and it brought forth much favorable comment. Local public libraries cooperated in the Expo by publicizing it through book displays, etc., in the libraries.

"RADIO . . . THE
SOUND OF SERVICE"

This is the theme for this year's observance of National Radio Month in May. Libraries are urged to cooperate in this month-long event that calls attention to the role of radio in informing and entertaining the people. For further details, write to the National Association of Broadcasters, 1771 N Street N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036.